

# the COURIER

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CLARKE COLLEGE, Dubuque, Iowa

February 27, 1978

## AAC to vote on BS degree

A Bachelor of Science degree may be offered at Clarke if the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) approves it at its March 6 meeting. A proposal to offer the B.S. was presented at AAC's February 20 meeting by Barbara Schick on behalf of the allied health committee and department chairmen whose disciplines belong to area V. Insuring discussion was largely supportive of the proposal. The proposal would need the approval of Forum as well as the Board of Trustees.

The main rationale for introduction of a B.S., according to Schick and other science department personnel, is to strengthen a graduate's ability to compete in career opportunities normally geared to those

with science degrees. Sister Sheila O'Brien, academic dean, said, "Basically I don't see this as doing anything different. I've looked at the transcripts of various seniors and they are in fact getting the equivalent of a B.S. degree."

Dr. Mary Guest of the biology department said that a B.A. degree, currently the only one offered by any of the departments at Clarke, might tend to work against a job-seeking graduate in the sciences. "The difference lies largely in the fact that some prospective employers look at a transcript and look for a B.S."

All existing requirements for graduation, including completion of the area program, writing re-

quirement, and language proficiency, would still need to be completed by those working toward a B.S. degree. Guest mentioned that this background would make such a B.S. stronger than one that did not require any liberal arts.

The proposal asked that the B.S. be considered for majors falling in area V — chemistry, food and nutrition, biology, mathematics, and psychology. Although no vote was taken, AAC members Sister Bertha Fox and Sheila Doyle indicated a preference to approve the B.S. for each separate major, and to see specific requirement outlines for each.

If the proposal is passed, the B.S. would still remain an option for students in qualifying departments. A student working toward a B.S. would be required to complete 20 additional hours in specific courses outside her major, according to the proposal.

Sister Mary Lou Caffrey, chemistry department chairman, stressed that the installation of the B.S.

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## Forum approves Mid-term grades

(CCSNS) Students will receive mid-semester grades for all classes taught on the Clarke campus and for courses taught by Clarke instructors on the other two campuses, according to an Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) proposal approved by Forum on February 9.

The proposal includes an exception for all courses in which grades cannot be determined at the quarter. This rare exception would be at the Academic Dean's and the instructor's discretion.

The need for a formal evaluation instead of an individual evaluation on a student/teacher basis, and the expense of mid-semester grading were mentioned.

**Consultant to help draw plans, find new admissions director**

(CCSNS) Johnson Associates, a consulting firm of Oak Brook, Illinois, has been contracted by Clarke for one year to study new and better ways to market the college.

Dennis Johnson and Henry Irwin of the firm were on campus February 15-17 to discuss their ideas with administrators, faculty, and students.

Clarke President, Meneve Dunham, said the main reason Johnson Associates was contracted to help draw up a definite long-range plan for the college.

"It is important to me to get an objective outside opinion on this plan," Dunham said. "The long-range plan must be updated."

Dunham reported that another important facet of the consultant's contract is for them to help find a replacement for Director of Admissions. Sister Irene Burns, who resigned, Dunham said she wanted to find the best possible person for the job.

John Lease of the music department spoke with the consultants along with several other faculty

members about better ways to market their programs to the public.

"They were interested in starting an all-out campaign in Dubuque," Lease said.

"They would like to change the image of Clarke somewhat, to let people know that it is accessible to them. Strong programs like we have in art, drama, and music can help 'sell' the college."

CSA President Rene Manning and several other students met with the consultants for 90 minutes February 15. "They spoke on general terms to us," Manning said. "They told us one good way to help sell the college was by word of mouth, by telling interested people our opinions about Clarke."

Manning said Johnson asked the students to tell him what they thought of the positive and negative aspects of Clarke were.

The consultants will be giving recommendations for management, marketing, and admissions counseling and the proposals will be discussed within respective committees to determine if they will be implemented.

## Majority of students against paying officers

The idea of reimbursing student officers was voted against at an all-student dialogue at the cafeteria on Feb. 20.

In asking for opinions, Clarke Student Association president, Rene Manning, said that the Loras College student president gets \$375 a semester; the vice president and treasurer \$225 a semester; the Cultural Events Committee chairman \$100 a semester.

The University of Dubuque covers the telephone of Dubuque covering expenses of the

student president and the secretary gets \$50 a semester.

Students were concerned about where the money will come from and which officers will or will not be paid. One of the objectors said that the money could instead be used to finance essentials such as CLRK, the on campus radio station.

There was a majority support for a voting student membership on the Board of Trustees. Currently, students can attend the Trustees' meeting but cannot vote and some-

times cannot voice their opinions.

As for CSA dues most students voted against including it in the regular tuition-room-board payments. A suggestion to print monetary values on each CSA ticket was supported by more than half of the students.

Another idea discussed was extending the hours of the Students Accounts Office so people can cash checks either after regular hours or during weekends.

## Changes in faculty due to budget cuts

by Carol J. Frahm  
Editor

Faculty cutbacks announced by President Meneve Dunham last Wednesday were made in an attempt to tighten the budget for 1978-79. Dunham's memo to the Clarke community outlined the joint administration of philosophy and theology as well as the language departments.

The early retirements of Sister Ann Michele Shay, theology, and Sister Josepha Carton, classical languages, were requested by Dunham with the concurrence of Sister Sheila O'Brien, academic dean.

Dwindling enrollments and lack of majors were part of the rationale for Dunham's request.

"When we looked at the number of personnel we have in those departments, the ratios (between students and faculty) are quite low," Dunham said. "So in reviewing all departments, those two areas seem to be the ones in which we could do with less personnel."

O'Brien cited the drop in the number of students from supporting majors, such as English, as another factor. Fewer English majors have been taking courses toward their major from the classical languages department.

Shay and Carton will spend next year on terminal sabbaticals.

Since no new faculty will be hired, students interested in classics will have to cross-register for courses at Loras.

Sister Mary Ellen Caldwell will administer the department of religious studies and philosophy beginning with the 1978-79 school year. Caldwell will be the only full time instructor in theology.

However, the possibility of other faculty members teaching courses still exists. The number of course offerings will be reduced and more cross-registration will be encouraged.

Sister Lucilda O'Connor will administer the department of modern languages, which includes Spanish, French, classical languages and Latin. Dr. Raymond Binder will be program advisor for French; O'Connor will advise the other programs. No faculty members in French or Spanish will be released.

No other departments except journalism/communications are under consideration for administrative merging.

Father Dennis Zusy, biology department chairperson, will be leaving for a semester of study in January, 1979. His duties will be absorbed by existing department members during his absence. Although a temporary department head will be assigned, no one has been appointed yet, O'Brien and Dunham said.

An acting department chairperson will also be hired for the food and nutrition department next year, due to Barbara Schick's year-long leave of absence. Schick will be spending the year in Amman, Jordan with her husband.

**Dance set March 10-11**

plies could make or break us."

Mori and Aimee Pacholski are co-chairpersons. Mori said Rich Lester, a United Cerebral Palsy representative from Des Moines, was instrumental in setting up the dance. CSA President Rene Manning was first contacted through a brochure from the organization, asking Clarke to sponsor a fund raising event.

Manning said she thought this was the first time a dance marathon was ever held at Clarke.

The Clarke Bar will open on its regular hours Friday and Saturday, but will not be serving beer during the dance.



Clarke College drama department's fourth production of the year, "Everything in the Garden," will be held March 3-5 in Terence Donaghoe Arena Theater in conjunction with the Fine Arts Weekend for prospective art, drama and music students.

magazines  
book library

ture. For a person to get the full benefits of an academic library, there should also be periodicals and journals for general knowledge and leisure reading. Included in general material are those that are sports related. Also part of the social life of today's society focuses on related events. Parallel the concern for physical fitness and activities. Sport related events are a great concern for the university.

The University of Dubuque covers the telephone of Dubuque covering expenses of the



plays

-AAC-

# Stafford stresses spontaneity

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would not require any new courses to be offered. In chemistry, she said, many upper division courses are offered on alternate years at Clarke, but that tri-college resources would enable a student to complete B.S. requirements without undue strain.

AAC plans to vote on the proposal on March 6 at 4:20.

Successful completion of a writing course will be part of the graduation requirement, starting with next fall's incoming freshmen. The decision was unanimously made by the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) at a special meeting on February 14.

Currently students must demon-

strate a proficiency in writing or successfully passed EN009 (Critical Thought and Writing) in order to meet writing skill requirements for graduation. The compulsory class was proposed by Dr. Dick Reidel and Sheila Doyle, the AAC task force, which studied the writing proficiency. The English department currently has the teaching resources to offer the writing class.

Only members of the class of 1982 and succeeding classes would be bound by the requirement. Those students should ordinarily have completed the class work by the end of their third semester at Clarke.

The requirement would also apply to transfer students into the class of 1982, with the stipulation that, if they had not previously taken a writing course, the Clarke course should be completed "as soon as possible" after their transfer.

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By Anne Ely  
and  
Bev Schroeder  
Staff Writers

Writing is not a skill to be mastered rule by rule, according to poet William Stafford, on campus last week to give a poetry reading and informal discussion with students and faculty. Writing, rather, is something from the heart that happens when an experience is met with genuine feeling.

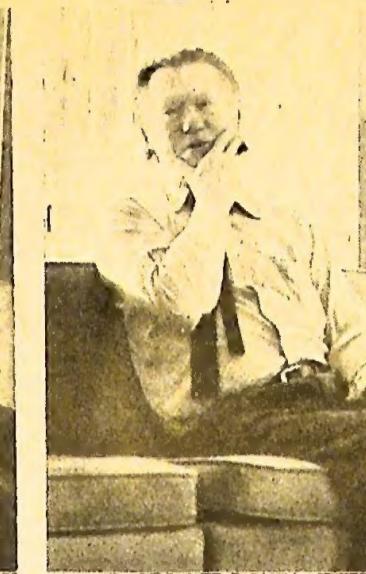
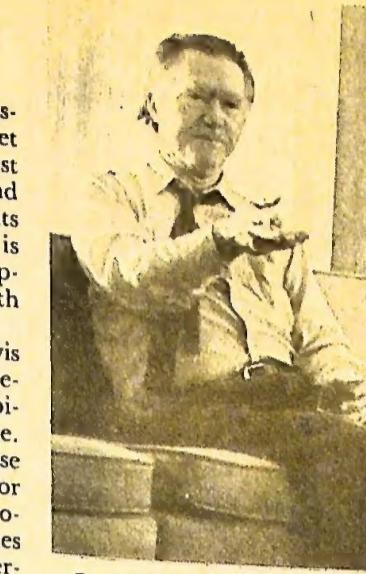
Stafford, an instructor at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, expressed writing as a combination of humility and arrogance. The writer must be humble because his words may not have meaning for everyone. But he must also be arrogant because his expression comes from himself. "There is a convergence of yourself and the material that appeals to you, and you become the person you already are."

"My impulse in writing poetry is to let whatever happens most obviously in sound happen at times unexpected by the reader," Stafford said. An "inner guidance" directs the writer and the classroom often inhibits natural expression by its norms and preconceived ideas of how writing should be.

Stafford often deviates from the norms by following his "inner guidance." In the afternoon discussion period, he read one of his poems, "Little Girl by the Fence at School," the last line of which read, "The sky, the sky, the sky." He said his training told him "I need to predicate —" But he followed his inner guidance, resulting in the natural expression that characterizes much of his poetry.

Stafford's instinctual feelings also help him in finding topics for his poetry. "People have asked me, 'How do you think of things to write about?' I have a feeling that they just find you. Being willing to accept things just makes poems happen. It's that kind of writing that an editor can't revise."

Even language itself can be an obstacle to natural writing. "Language sometimes distorts what is at the heart of creative writing," he said. He read a poem containing an image about a "Braille eye", and



Poet William Stafford conducted an informal discussion session with students and faculty Thursday afternoon, prior to his poetry reading/lecture that night in ALH.

recognized that it might be difficult for some to understand that use of the language. "You meet emergencies that the language doesn't provide ready solutions for. So you do the best you can."

He compared the language to a team of dogs drawing a sled. There is tension when the dogs try to move in several directions, until the driver can control them into moving down a single course. Words are like the dogs, unable to flow forward without a skillful and lucky writer.

Stafford, who received the National Book Award in 1963 for his collection, "Travelling through the Dark," said he is sometimes tempted to "overload" his poems with too many images. "You can't do that," he said. "Poems have to fly!"

Stafford also compared writing to swimming. "The water holds the swimmer up — the self can swim. If you lend yourself to the ideas you feel, they would hold you up, just as the water holds up the swimmer."

Again stressing the importance of spontaneity in writing, he said, "What you keep meeting in the arts are opportunities that you might have missed if you had planned ahead."

"Some people have said that poetry has always existed, and that prose wasn't invented until the printing press. Poetry is natural.

He added, "Prose relies on what the language says, while poetry relies on what the language says and does. The poet gets the language to do both things at once."

Stafford said he regards his poems as being his own planets. This gives him the freedom to begin anywhere, and from there, the poem is a succession of things. He added that he often writes beyond where the poems should end, and then has to go back and find the actual end.

Stafford sees poetry as "a way of bringing along with you all the things that happen in life." He spoke of taking several of his children to a public library, and one son started to read the first book he saw, rather than browsing around. Stafford's first reaction was, "This kid is weird," but he began to realize the child's non-selectiveness was a real gift. "I guess I want to learn through writing to see those things without expecting them."

Stafford's appearance, sponsored by the English department and the Cultural Events committee, marks his first stop on an annual winter lecture tour. His awards include the Shelley Memorial Award in 1964 and the Guggenheim Award for the 1966-67 academic year. He holds a doctorate from the University of Iowa and a B.A. and M.A. from the University of Kansas.

## Art show deadline next Saturday

The second annual tri-college art show will be March 5-17. Entries, mounted and suitable for hanging, must be submitted to the University of Dubuque Library by Saturday, March 4. Students from the tri-colleges may submit a maximum of three works in the visual and graphic arts media. All selected entries will receive a momento from the Tri-College Cultural Events Committee.

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